

Paper 19 - Poster

Mighty Mahara!? The role of self-organized learning within the context of Mahara ePortfolio. Practical examples from student teacher courses at Vienna University of Education. A technical steeplechase or supportive methodological perspective?

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Abstract (presentation format: poster)

This poster seeks to illustrate the implementation process of the ePortfolio Mahara at Vienna University of Education. In the context of a scientific project, several steps are documented which were necessary in order to initiate a constant use of the portfolio in practical student teacher courses for various subjects (English, History, German) on various levels (elementary and secondary schools) for students, as well as for lecturers.

The poster will show to what extent ePortfolios support personal development, social skills and professional credo among student teachers and staff.

Furthermore, the aspect of self-organized learning within the ePortfolio-context including various asynchronous communication processes and collaborative performance is highlighted and critically-reflected.

One prominent part of the poster deals with the evaluative feedback of student teachers concerning the reception of user-friendliness and learning outcomes of Mahara. Based on the interpretation of collected data, further steps in order to improve the technical and didactical use of Mahara at Vienna University of Education will be presented.

A selection of charts will show the implementation process concerning the use of Mahara at Vienna University of Education.

References (if you choose to include any references)

- (1) Meyer, T., Mayrberger, K., Münte-Goussar, S., Schwalbe, C. (eds.) (2011) 'Kontrolle und Selbstkontrolle – Zur Ambivalenz von E-Portfolios in Bildungsprozessen'. Wiesbaden: VS Verlag.
- (2) Hilzensauer, W., Schaffert, S. (2010) 'E-Portfolio as a Means to Reflect on and Assess Learning: Didactical Challenges for Higher Education. In: Baumgartner, P., Zauchner, S. and Bauer, R. (eds.) 'The Potential of E-Portfolios in Higher Education'. Innsbruck: Studienverlag, pp. 79-89.
- (3) Heath, M. (2004) 'Electronic portfolios. A guide to professional development and assessment'. Worthington/Ohio: Linworth Publications.
- (4) Cohn, E. R., Hibbitts, B. J. (2004) 'Beyond the Electronic Portfolio: A Lifetime Personal Webpace', *Educase Quarterly*, 27(4), available at: <http://www.educause.edu/EDUCAUSE+Quarterly/EDUCASEQuarterlyMagazineVolum/BeyondtheElectronicPortfoliioAI/157310>, last access: May 7th, 2011